

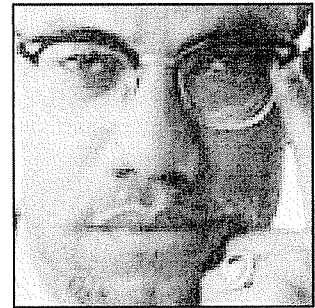
City of Boston IN

CITY COUNCIL

CHARLES C. YANCEY & CHUCK TURNER

HONORING MALCOLM X

- WHEREAS: Malcolm X (Malcolm X Little; later El-Hajj Malik El-Shabazz) (1925-1965), was a leading figure in the 20th-century movement for black liberation in the United States; and
- WHEREAS: Malcolm X, along with his siblings, experienced racism from childhood: Hooded Klansmen burned their home in Lansing, Michigan. His father, Earl Little, was killed under mysterious circumstances. Welfare agencies split up the children and eventually committed his mother, Louise Little, to a state mental institution. And Malcolm X, himself, was forced to live in a detention home run by a racist white couple; and
- WHEREAS: Malcolm X, during eighth grade, moved to Boston, Massachusetts, to live with his half-sister Ella Collins on Dale Street in Roxbury, Massachusetts; and
- WHEREAS: Malcolm X later studied the teachings of the Nation of Islam (NOI), the black Muslim group founded by Wallace D. Fard and led by Elijah Muhammad; and
- WHEREAS: Malcolm X rose quickly within the NOI ranks, serving as minister of Harlem's Temple No. 7 in 1954, and later ministering to temples in Detroit and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; and
- WHEREAS: Malcolm X disagreed with the NOI's policy of not participating in politics. In 1962, before leaving the NOI, Malcolm X shared the podium with black, white, and Puerto Rican labor organizers in the left wing, multiracial hospital workers' union in New York; and
- WHEREAS: Malcolm X toured Egypt, Sudan, Nigeria, and Ghana in 1959, five years earlier than his famous pilgrimage to Africa and the Middle East in 1964; and
- WHEREAS: Malcolm X resigned from NOI on March 8, 1964 and formed the Muslim Mosque, Inc., an Islamic movement devoted to working in the political sphere and with civil rights leaders; and
- WHEREAS: Malcolm X, later that year, made a pilgrimage to Mecca and upon his return renamed himself El-Hajj Malik El-Shabazz, adopted from Sunni Islam; and
- WHEREAS: Malcolm X, during the summer of 1964, formed the Organization of Afro-American Unity (OAAU), which was inspired by the Organization of African Unity (OAU) made up of independent African states. The OAAU's program combined advocacy for independent black institutions (e.g., schools and cultural centers) with support for black participation in mainstream politics, including electoral campaigns; and
- WHEREAS: Malcolm X was assassinated on February 21, 1965 when he was shot 15 times by three gunmen during a speaking engagement in Manhattan's Audubon Ballroom; and
- WHEREAS: Malcolm X's ideas about community control, African liberation, and self-pride have become widespread and have had a major impact on black politics; and
- WHEREAS: The City of Boston displays a plaque at the former home of Malcolm X on Dale Street in Roxbury, Massachusetts; Be It Therefore
- RESOLVED: That the Boston City Council, in meeting assembled, remembers Malcolm X during the 22nd Annual Malcolm X Memorial and Awards Breakfast; And Be It Further
- RESOLVED: That the Boston City Council, in meeting assembled, proclaims May 16, 2009 as Malcolm X Day in the City of Boston



Malcolm X



By: _____

Thomas P. Cooney
President of the City Council

Attest: _____

Roseanne Salerni
Clerk of the City of Boston

Offered by: _____

Charles C. Yancey
May 20, 2009

Date: _____